

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-9, and 11-16 are pending in this application. Claims 2 and 10 have been canceled without prejudice and without disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein. Claims 1 and 6 have been amended to incorporate features somewhat similar to those formerly recited in canceled Claim 2, Claim 8 has been amended as shown above, and now depends from Claim 1, Claim 16 has been amended to change “ball” to “roller”, and Claim 11 has been amended to recite that the claimed mechanism is used with a bicycle. Those claim amendments have not been made for purposes related to patentability.

The Office Action alleges that the originally filed claims are directed to more than one species of the generic invention, and that those species lack unity of invention because they are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1. According to the Office Action, the species are as follows:

1. Species I – a bicycle as shown in Figs. 1-10; and
2. Species II – a bicycle as shown in Figs. 12 and 24.

Without conceding the propriety of the election of species requirement, Applicant hereby provisionally elects Species I, without traverse, for initial prosecution on the merits. Applicant submits that Claims 1, 3-9, and 11-16, as now presented, all read on the elected species.

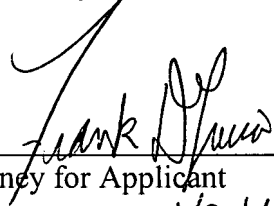
Applicant also notes that, although the Office Action states that former Claim 10 is deemed to correspond to Species I, the features of that claim are supported at least in Figs. 12 and 24, which show, for example, a non-rotatable supporting member 2. Claims 1, 3-9, and 11-16 are supported at least by Figs. 1-10, wherein Fig. 1 shows, for

example, a rotatable supporting member 2. It should be noted, of course, that the scope of Claim 10 is not necessarily limited to the embodiment shown in Figs. 12 and 24, and the scope of Claims 1, 3-9, and 11-16 is not necessarily limited to the embodiment shown in Figs. 1-10. Moreover, although the Office Action alleges that Claims 8, 11, and 12 correspond to Species II, each of those claims, as now presented, reads on Species I and depends from Claim 1.

Favorable consideration of Claims 1, 3-9, and 11-16, which read on elected Species I, and early passage to issue of the present application, are respectfully requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE TO CLAIMS

1. (Amended) A human powered drive mechanism comprising a rotatable member, a supporting member, an endless driving member extended around said rotatable member and said supporting member, and a human powered drive receiving portion mounted to said endless driving member, wherein said supporting member is rotatable, and said human powered drive receiving portion is circulatable with said endless driving member.

2. (Cancelled).

6. (Amended) A human powered drive mechanism comprising a first rotatable member, a first supporting member, a first endless driving member extended around said first rotatable member and said first supporting member, a second rotatable member, a second supporting member, a second endless driving member extended around said second rotatable member and said second supporting member, a first human powered drive receiving portion mounted to said first endless driving member and a second human powered drive receiving portion mounted to said second endless driving member, wherein said first rotatable member and second rotatable member are coaxial with each other and are fixed to each other by a shaft member, said shaft member comprising a third rotatable member between said first and second rotatable members, wherein said first supporting member is rotatable, and said first human powered drive receiving portion is circulatable

with said first endless driving member, and wherein said second supporting member is rotatable, and said second human powered drive receiving portion is circulatable with said second endless driving member.

8. (Amended) A human powered drive mechanism [for a human powered vehicle comprising a propulsion wheel, a rotatable member, a supporting member an endless driving member extended around said rotatable member and said supporting member, and a human powered drive receiving portion mounted to said endless driving member, wherein said propulsion wheel is connected with said rotatable member] according to Claim 1, further comprising a propulsion wheel connected with said rotatable member.

10. (Cancelled).

11. (Amended) A human powered drive mechanism according to Claim 8, wherein said [human powered vehicle] mechanism is used with a bicycle.

16. (Amended) A human powered drive mechanism according to Claim 13, wherein said driving force receiving link is rotatably mounted to said constraining means by a roller [ball] bearing or a linear motion bearing such as a linear bush or the like.

Docketing

Client Matter No.: 02902.000001

Source of IDS Information

The attached Information Disclosure Statement:

☒ Cites information forwarded in correspondence from the client dated
February 21, 2002.

☐ Cites information from our in-house inventor search.

☐ Other (provide brief explanation).
